

This is a continuation of co-pending international application PCT/GB99/03197, having an international filing date of September 24, 1999, which claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of the filing date of provisional application Serial No. 60/103,397, filed October 7, 1998, abandoned.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 35 and 39.

Rewrite claims 3, 4, 6, 8-10, 12, 13, 15-25, 27 and 30 as follows. A mark-up of the amended claims as required by 37 CFR 1.121(c)(ii) is attached hereto as Appendix A.

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the condition in step (a) is that the substrate and the milk is at a pH which is higher than the pI value of fibrinogen.

4. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the condition in step (a) is that the substrate and the milk is at a pH which is greater than pH 5.5.

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein steps (b) and (c) are performed at a pH greater than pH 5.5 but less than pH 14.0.

8. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the irrigating means in step (c) has an ionic strength of equal to or greater than 0.10M and a pH of 5.5-6.5, or an ionic strength of equal to or greater than 0.05M and a pH of greater than 6.5.

9. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the milk is whole milk, skimmed milk, milk whey or milk fraction.

10. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the milk contains one or more agents capable of disrupting casein micelles.

12. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the agent is EDTA, EGTA or citrate.

Claim 12
12. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the agent is EDTA, EGTA or citrate.

Claim 13
13. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the substrate is in a batch format or a column format.

15. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fibrinogen is transgenic fibrinogen.

16. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fibrinogen is human fibrinogen.

Claim 17
17. (Amended) A method for obtaining fibrinogen from milk comprising subjecting milk to ion exchange chromatography.

18. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the obtained fibrinogen is at least 60% pure.

19. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the milk contains one or more agents capable of disrupting casein micelles.

20. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the agent is a chelating agent.

21. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the agent is EDTA, EGTA or citrate.

22. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the cation exchange chromatography is in a batch format or a column format.

23. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 22 wherein the column format of contacting milk with a cationic exchange media is by fixed bed adsorption, expanded bed adsorption or fluidised bed adsorption.